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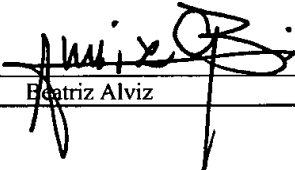
In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Appl. No.: 09/787, 229 Confirmation No. 8002
Applicant(s): Kanikanti, *et al.*
Filed: April 23, 2001
TC/A.U.: 1615
Examiner: Sheikh, H. N
Docket No.: LeA 33 253
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I hereby certify that this correspondence and any papers referred to as attached are being deposited, on the date shown below, with the United States Postal Service, with sufficient postage, as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: FEB 23 2004


Beatriz Alviz

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the Office action dated August 22, 2003. A three-month extension in which to respond to the Office Action is respectfully requested. A Petition and Fee for extending the response period three months, up to and including February 22, 2004 is enclosed

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.